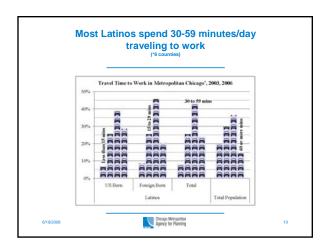
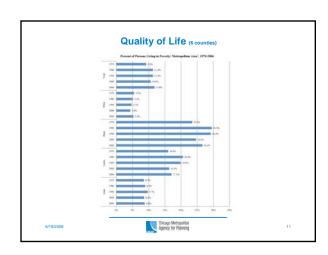


# Latino Community Characteristics Generally more dense population; may be more economically diverse than suburban areas Diverse housing stock Mix of uses Easy access to public transit Connected by walking and bicycle paths Public spaces for indoor and outdoor cultural events



Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning



### Employment/Income - Suggested Directions

- Enhance economic potential of Latinos by ensuring they are prepared to participate fully in the region's global, knowledgebased economy (CCGA, 2006)
- Support policies that promote adult education and skills (Ready, Brown-Gort, 2005)
- Promote policies that improve young people's access to opportunities and resources improving achievement in schools

6/19/2008



## **Education – Suggested Directions**

- Understand needs of the growing Latino population in suburban and city schools, and develop plans to increase the educational assets available to support their academic achievement and attainment (CCGA, 2006)
- Expand the pool of trained and qualified bilingual and bicultural teachers and administrators for early childhood, elementary and high school education (CCGA, 2006)
- Provide planning dollars for school districts to develop duallanguage programs (Alejo and Puente, 2007)

6/19/200



# Housing - Suggested Directions

- Partner or consult with developers experienced in working with Latino communities in order to properly build for their lifestyles and cultural norms (Alejo and Puente, 2007)
- Develop diverse housing that includes smaller homes and affordable rental housing to accommodate increased Latino housing demand (Alejo and Puente, 2007)
- Reinforce affordable housing initiatives such as employerassisted housing, community housing programs, housing trust funds, and workforce development (Alejo and Puente, 2007)

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### Health - Suggested Directions

- Increase the availability of affordable, accessible, culturally competent health care for Latino throughout the Chicago region (CCGA, 2006)
- Expand programs and resources that encourage disease prevention and wellness in Mexican communities in the city and suburbs (CCGA, 2006)
- Design and build walking pathway systems that promote good health through walking
  - Paths should be well lighted and safe
  - Consider paths from homes to businesses, cultural centers, schools, and restaurants
  - Consider paths included in park and recreation plans

6/19/2008



### Land Use - Suggested Directions

- Build the capacity of local planning agencies to engage in and conduct short and long-term planning programs sensitive to Latino needs
- Develop well-designed physical linkages to public transit throughout the community
- Support diverse housing types including affordable housing options
- Provide mixed use developments giving strong consideration to transit oriented neighborhoods
- Consider strategic plans that include well thought out relationships between land use, transportation, employment, education, data and civic infrastructures

6/19/2008



### Transportation - Suggested Directions

- Continue to make transit options attractive to Latino communities and residents
- Support upgrading and updating of the existing transit system especially where Latino residents and workers are expected to be located
- Encourage well-designed community level circulation systems for all modes of transportation
  - Design safe and attractive pedestrian circulation systems that encourage walking as part of a healthy way of living
  - Identify cultural factors to be considered in circulation system design

6/19/2001



### Quality of Life – Suggested Directions

- Create new models to promote Latino inclusiveness and to transform systems such as those for education, health care and employment.
- Develop new paradigms to redistribute public and private resources to areas where Latinos need them
- Foster participation of Latinos in civic leadership through collaborations in business and philanthropic communities, state and local governments and Latino leaders (CCGA, 2006)

6/19/2008



### **Research Assistance**

Sylvia Puente Director, Metropolitan Chicago Initiative Roger Knight Institutional Research Specialist

> Institute for Latino Studies University of Notre Dame 3322 S. Oak Park Avenue Berwyn, Illinois 60402 (708) 788-6109

6/19/200



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# Questions for Conversation

How has the increase in Latino population impacted your community or the work program of your agency, business or institution?

How would you characterize the most evident unmet needs of Latinos in the short term and in the long-term?

6/19/2001

